

75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee on Commerce and Workforce Development

MINORITY REPORT
MEASURE: HB 2831 B
CARRIERS: Sen. George
Sen. Telfer

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass with Different Amendments to the A-Eng. Measure (Printed B-Eng.)
Signers of the Report: Sen. George and Sen. Telfer
Prepared By: Jeremy Sarant, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 5/18, 5/20, 5/27

WHAT THE MINORITY REPORT DOES: Prohibits funding of pay increases granted by Oregon Governor during 18 months preceding effective date of Act. Requires Governor to renegotiate contracts with state employees. Suspends temporarily cost-of-living increases, step increases and upward reclassifications for executive branch state employees. Establishes that suspensions remain in effect until Oregon has positive rate of economic growth for four out of six quarters and private sector unemployment rate for state is less than seven percent. Requires future salary increases to be prospective only. Exempts elected state officers. Declares emergency; takes effect on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF MINORITY AMENDMENT: Replaces entire measure.

BACKGROUND: In its original form, House Bill 2831 B proposed several changes to the Public Employee Collective Bargaining Act. The minority amendment replaces the entire measure with provisions to reduce spending on state employees, particularly executive branch employees.

According to the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis, the best indicator of the rate of economic growth in Oregon is total nonfarm employment, which has been negative for the last six quarters. The seasonally adjusted state unemployment rate for April, 2009, was 12 percent. Proponents of House Bill 2831 B assert that the measure addresses these economic conditions by reducing state spending by rolling back and limiting pay of state employees.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

Committee Services Form – 2009 Regular Session